



West Midlands Bridge Club & Warwickshire CBA



Presents

The 2011 Corn Cairdis (Cup of Friendship)



England v Ireland



The History of the Corn Cairdis

(Cup of Friendship - England v Ireland)

Introduction

The Corn Cairdis was introduced into the bridge calendar in 1993 in order to facilitate the re-entry of Ireland into the Camrose Trophy after an absence of many years. Corn Cairdis means Cup of Friendship and the tremendous atmosphere within which this event has been played over the years on both sides of the Irish Sea has amply justified its name.

Originally there were four teams taking part, Open, Women's, Junior and Officials, but it was so successful that in its second year, a Club and County team were also included. However, once Ireland had re-joined the Camrose, it was considered superfluous to include the top three teams, so the spirit of the event was continued with just a Club, a County and an Officials team.

The English Bridge Union has been endeavoring, with some success, in recent years to cut its spending on international matters, preferring to devote more of its limited financial resources on developing bridge at club and county level. It was decided by the EBU that the Corn Cairdis should go the same way as the similarly structured Swedish Challenge; which was discontinued after the 2003 match.

Our friends in CBAI were disappointed at this and are trying to continue what they, and the many EBU members who over the years have played in the event, consider to be a wonderful weekend of social bridge played in a most enjoyable and friendly spirit.

Peter Stocken, the immediate Past Chairman of EBU and Malcolm Oliver, a current Board member, have agreed that they will make great efforts to continue with this fixture at no cost to EBU and the EBU Board has agreed to this arrangement.

This year West Midlands Bridge Club will be hosting the event and running an Open Teams event alongside the Corn Cairdis. The same hands will be played and prizes will be awarded to the overall winning team.